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August 4, 1999

1186 '99 AUG -9 19:47

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA,

It has come to my attention, regarding the following dockets--98N-1230, 96P-0418, and 97P-0197--that public comment has been requested.

I urge the FDA to ban the practice of forced molting of hens in the chicken industry not only because it is cruel and inhumane but because there is reasonable evidence that this cruelty, by depleting the hens immune systems, helps to cause the increased spread of harmful bacteria, including especially salmonella enteritidis, in the eggs which then go to market.

Clearly public health is not sufficiently served by merely adding warning labels to egg cartons and more closely regulating egg refrigeration temperatures. Information I have seen makes a clear link between the cruelty of forced molting and the diseases then carried to the public. The issue must be addressed where it begins--in the hen house.

It is my conviction that the petition to ban forced molting, received by the FDA in April, 1998, should be granted without delay.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

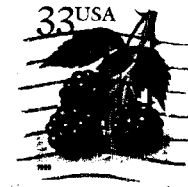
In all haste,

D.D. Delaney
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96P-0418

C97

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20837-0001



CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ *C97*

See File Number: 97P-0197/ *C98*

96P 0418/ *C97*